

for his faithfulness on this issue and thank the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) for his commitment.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just want to give assurances to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) that I will be working with Mr. HOUGHTON and the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, not only on the legislation but on our trade ambassador to make certain that he is giving this a priority.

When it reaches the point that we can meet together, see where we are and then if we do not get the type of response that we believe is adequate, then you can depend on me working with the committee and the chairman to see that this is done.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), the chairman of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Bakersfield, California (Mr. THOMAS), for yielding me time; and I would like to congratulate the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means and the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), the ranking minority member.

This concern was first raised to my attention by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) of the Committee on Rules late one night; and we have been trying since that time when he, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), and I discussed this, to move ahead.

I would simply like to congratulate the leadership of the committee on Ways and Means for addressing this very important human rights issue, which I believe can see successful resolution, and will look forward to the progress that is made.

I thank my friends for bringing this to our attention and for the work they have done on it.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 8:40 p.m. for the purpose of receiving in joint session the President of the United States.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 8:40 p.m.

□ 2041

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 8 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2590. An act making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 2590) "An Act making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes," and requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. MIKULSKI, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. REED, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. STEVENS to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

□ 2042

JOINT SESSION OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE HELD PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 231 TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The Speaker of the House presided.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Bill Sims, announced the President pro tempore and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore taking the chair at the left of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY);

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS);

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT); and

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The President pro tempore of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to

escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber:

The Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE);

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID);

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT); and

The Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES).

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms announced the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, His Royal Highness Prince Bandar Bin Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms announced the Chief Justice of the United States and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court.

The Chief Justice of the United States and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

□ 2102

At 9 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m., the Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Wilson Livingood, announced the President of the United States.

The President of the United States, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, and stood at the Clerk's desk.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of the Congress, I have the high privilege and the distinct honor of presenting to you the President of the United States.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

ADDRESS TO THE NATION BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The PRESIDENT. Thank you all. Please be seated.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President Pro Tempore, Members of Congress, and fellow Americans:

In the normal course of events, Presidents come to this Chamber to report on the state of the Union. Tonight no such report is needed. It has already been delivered by the American people. We have seen it in the courage of passengers who rushed terrorists to save others on the ground, passengers like an exceptional man named Todd Beamer. Would you please help me welcome his wife, Lisa Beamer, here tonight.

We have seen the state of our Union in the endurance of rescuers working